

Scriptures for Today: Joshua 6:1-27 – Jericho is fallen; Rahab is saved from destruction by fire

Today's Message: God's Superior Ways – We must not try to create a new way for God's sake!

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we were reminded of what had been forgotten in the wilderness – circumcision! The sinful disobedience of God's people had included the very SIGN God gave to confirm His covenant with Abraham. After God's people got right with Him and kept the passover in the plains of Jericho, the captain of the LORD's host appeared (Jesus Christ) – and Joshua *worshipped* Him! Today, we will witness God's incredible plan to *utterly destroy* Jericho. By _____, God's people will obey His Word exactly as spoken – no matter how _____ it sounded! As a result, God will bring a great victory. Before judgment comes to the city and all therein, Rahab will be pulled out of the ____ – and *all* hers.

LEARNING TOGETHER

1. The Text Joshua 6:1-27

- **The plan revealed** – Joshua obeyed God's Word; His plan was _____ executed.
 6:1-7 *"And he said unto the people, Pass on, and compass the city..."*
- **Day 1 to 6 obedience** – God's people _____ Joshua's instructions exactly as spoken.
 6:8-14 *"they compassed the city once, and returned... so they did six days."*
- **Glory on the 7th day** – God's people rose early and obeyed; the _____ command given.
 6:15-16 *"And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew..."*
- **The accursed thing** – Joshua commanded to _____ themselves from the accursed thing.
 6:17-19 *"...lest ye make yourselves accursed... a curse, and trouble it."*
- **Judgment by fire** – They utterly destroyed _____ that was in the city; Rahab's family saved.
 6:20-27 *"...they burnt the city with fire, and all that was therein..."*

2. The History 1 Kings 16:34 (Jericho); Revelation 8:2-6 (Seven Trumpets)

- **Jericho** – This mighty fortress was situated amid a vast grove of palm trees. Its walls were big enough that houses were built upon them. Given its location in the passage to Canaan from the Jordan valley, it was a key strategic stronghold.

Deuteronomy 34:3-4; Joshua 2:15; Judges 3:13; 1 Kings 16:29-34

NOTE Joshua's prophetic curse was fulfilled by Hiel the Bethelite in the days of Ahab's wicked reign with **Jezebel** his wife. It is important to note that God's enemy is bent on REBUILDING the great walled cities that God brings down in your life!

- **7 Trumpets** – Trumpets were used to gather God's people for assemblies or to warn God's people and ready them for warfare. The only other time "*seven trumpets*" is found in the Bible is Revelation 8-11 – 1 of the 4 accounts of *the Tribulation*.
Num 10; Isa 58:1; Jer 4:5; Ezek 33; Zeph 1:16; Revelation 8-11; 1 Thess 1:8

NOTE The seven trumpets are an interesting connection with the Tribulation Period where Babylon (religion/city of Antichrist) is fallen also! Yet, for us, there is also a simple connection through the "*trumpeting*" of our voice with the gospel as the means God has chosen at this time in history to free Satan's captives!!

3. The Lessons Hebrew 11:30-31; 2 Corinth 10:4-5; Isaiah 55:6-11; Jude 23

✓ *The first great enemy stronghold in the Promised Land was brought to the ground BY FAITH.*

- **Victorious faith** – The great walls and fortress of Jericho were no match for Almighty God.

Heb 11:30 *"By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed..."*

1 Sam 17:48 *"David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine."*

Truth: God wants to bring down the enemies in _____ lives as we **trust** Him.

Learning: Trust God **by faith** to overcome the enemy strongholds in **your** life.

✓ *God's people achieved victory over Jericho by OBEYING His Words exactly and completely.*

- **Spiritual weapons** – The weapons of their warfare with Jericho were **not** man-made.

2 Cor 10:4-5 *"(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)"*

Isa 55:6-11 *"For my thoughts... neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD."*

Truth: Spiritual battles cannot be won in the _____ (aka *fleshly will power*).

Learning: You **must** bring every thought to the **obedience** of Christ.

✓ *The harlot Rahab was PULLED OUT of Jericho before judgment came by sword and by fire.*

- **Saved from wrath** – God was faithful to save Rahab and her entire house AS PROMISED.

Heb 11:31 *"By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not"*

Jude 23 *"And others same with fear, pulling them out of the fire..."*

Truth: If you are born again, you have been saved _____ the wrath to come.

Learning: You **must** do **your** part to save a perishing world from an eternal hell.